

Area-wide Pest Management for Wheat is a collaborative, multi-state effort funded through the USDA Agricultural Research Service.

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How growers will participate:

- ▶ We will invite approximately 180 growers to participate in the project.
- ▶ We will ask growers to participate in two focus group discussions and four crop production interviews.
- ▶ All information obtained from growers is confidential. Reports from focus groups and interviews will not identify individuals.
- ▶ Growers will receive a periodic newsletter, updating them on happenings throughout the project region.
- ▶ We will encourage growers to attend site visits at demonstration farms.
- ▶ While participation is voluntary in all aspects of the project, we hope growers will choose to participate all the way through the four-year project.
- ▶ Grower participation is essential if we are to develop an effective aphid management program for wheat.



Area-wide Pest Management for Wheat

Management of greenbug and
Russian wheat aphid



Helping

Growers

Succeed



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Overview

Area-wide Pest Management for Wheat is a five-year project to demonstrate pest management practices for the Russian wheat aphid and greenbug. The project is one of several area-wide projects developed by the USDA Agricultural Research Service. The purpose of each project is to develop coordinated efforts to control pests that occur over large geographical areas of the United States.

Key aspects of the project:

- ▶ **Education and information-sharing opportunities for growers**
- ▶ **Monitoring insects, weeds and plant diseases in a series of paired demonstration fields over a four-year period**
- ▶ **Demonstrating the cost-effectiveness of pest control in variety of wheat production areas and systems**

Monitor demonstration fields

Our team identified pairs of demonstration fields in three wheat production zones of the Great Plains. Each pair consists of one wheat-fallow/continuous wheat field and one rotational-crop field. Rotational crops grown with wheat vary for the three zones.

At each demonstration field, our team will closely monitor aphids and other pests over the next four years. We will also collect information on agronomic conditions and weather to assess how aphid and other pest numbers vary within particular areas of a field and over time.

The pairs of demonstration fields are distributed over three regions of the Great Plains where we will monitor aphids and other pests to assess pest control effectiveness.

Who is AWPM for Wheat?

Our project team includes specialists from the ARS laboratory in Stillwater, Oklahoma, and scientists and extension specialists from these five land-grant universities: Colorado State University, Kansas State University, University of Nebraska, Oklahoma State University, and Texas A&M University. Eventually, our team will also include 180 growers as well as county extension educators.

